

## COLLECTION for Christmas Parcels



- ✓ Tinned ham
- ✓ Tinned potatoes/vegetables
- ✓ Tinned salmon/fish
- ✓ Tinned fruit
- ✓ Gravy granules
- ✓ Stuffing
- ✓ Jar pickles, chutney etc
- ✓ Christmas cake
- ✓ Christmas pudding
- ✓ Mince pies
- ✓ Crisps/Savoury biscuits
- ✓ Sweet biscuits
- ✓ Fizzy drink/Juice
- ✓ Chocolates/Sweets
- ✓ Toiletries
- ✓ Christmas crackers
- ✓ Children's stocking filler,
- ✓ Small adult gift

*Thank you!*

pageborders.org

### Abingdon Emergency Foodbank Collection

We have decided that we would like to try and help The Abingdon Emergency Foodbank again this year after a very generous response from the JMA community last year.

We will again be running an interhouse competition to see which house - Ock, Stert or Thames can give the most donations.

We will be collecting donations daily and we would like students to bring in items as listed on the list here and give them to their tutors.

Any donations would be gratefully received and we will be delivering our goods to the Foodbank on Northcourt Road the week commencing 11th December.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Ms Batcheldor and Mrs Cotmore-Brown

### Year 7 in Science

Year 7 have recently finished their first set of science topics on cells, particles and forces.



While students have been working on some difficult scientific concepts, they have also had opportunities to apply and test their learning in novel ways.

As an enrichment task for part of the cells topic, students made model cells. Cakes, bags and modified tubs of hair gel are just some of the creative ways in which cells have been modelled for homework. The work of Ted Stimpson, Millie Slone, Zoe De Goris Jedrezejowska and Sophie Greaney is shown. In class, as part of the forces unit, students have recently been investigating whether jelly rings obey Hooke's law.



This week has been Road Safety Awareness Week. We have led an assembly programme talking to students about the many aspects of cycle safety including the necessity to wear a helmet and have lights on your bike. Students were also made aware about the risks associated with drivers not being able to see them both due to lack of reflective clothing and lights but also due to cars having blind spots.

The importance of wearing a helmet was brought home as Eve explains how her life was saved in March as she was wearing a cycle helmet when she was hit by a car meters from the school.

In March whilst cycling to school, through no fault of my own I was hit by a car on a roundabout. I am now dealing with a mild traumatic brain injury, which affects day to day life, however should I have not had a helmet on it could have been a more tragic outcome. I've decided to use my accident, with the support of teachers, as a platform to educate and inform the pupils and teachers at John Mason on the importance of being safe while out in public, with the aim of guiding the JMS community to make an informed choice when out on the road.



Dear Parents / Carers,

We would like to invite Year 7 students who are particularly interested in English Literature to apply to be a part of Symposium 2017.

What is it?

- John Mason School's enrichment programme for the students who love English Literature

Who is it aimed at?

- Students who are particularly talented in English Literature

What will I do?

- Have 6/7 University Level sessions led by Professors, Professional Writers, Academics and Specialists
- Choose an interest area and write a dissertation / project
- Present my findings at Oxford University

How do I get involved?

- Write a letter of application to Mr Davies explaining why you feel you should be considered, and why you think studying English Literature is important

Students should hand their letters of application in to Mr Davies in E2 no later than Friday 8 December.

Parents can find out more about the programme by reading the news footage in the school website and here:

[http://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/14208841.Schools\\_unite\\_for\\_workshops\\_to\\_help\\_get\\_pupils\\_to\\_top\\_universities/](http://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/14208841.Schools_unite_for_workshops_to_help_get_pupils_to_top_universities/)

Chris Davies

### Anti Bullying Week

Last week was anti-bullying week and we ran a series of assemblies at JMS - if you would like to view the presentation, please follow this link: [Anti-Bullying presentation](#)

## OUTWARD BOUND ULLSWATER 2017

In the October half-term a group of 12 eager children and 3 slightly worried teachers drove (7 hours!) up to the Outward Bound centre in Ullswater for an action-packed week. As soon as we got there we received our first challenge: to run down to the freezing lake and jump in! The next few days held some epic adventures. We climbed up waterfalls and gorges, hiked up a mountain and stayed the night in a climber's hut (toilet not included), rowed a huge boat across the lake, and canoed along the banks. We must have eaten through their digestive biscuit supply! However, none of these amazing activities would have happened without our hero instructor, Jon, he truly made the trip an adventure. Thanks to Jon, and the brave teachers: Miss Herringshaw, Mr Clark and Ms Lee. It was the best we could have asked for.

**Eva, Tom, Lucy, Josh V, Grace, Ibou, Amber, Josh L, Emma, Jack, Megan and Ross**



# Festive Fun Challenge

## Visual Arts Festive Tree Decoration Competition

Contribute to the JMS Community Winter Wonderland Tree

Win House Points and impress visitors to school reception with your creative craft skills!

**The Challenge:**  
Use the template below to create a winter themed decoration to be added to our beautiful twig tree in the new school foyer.

You can use any media or materials you like but you need to stick to the wintery colour scheme of silver, whites, greys, aqua, teal and blues to create your design (think ICE).

Use the examples on this sheet as inspiration. We are laser cutting the hexagonal frames from card – you just need to create the 'insert'.

**Deadline: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Dec**  
Hand your decorations in to Mrs Pritchard in D1 or Mrs Ponting in A2.  
**House points awarded for ALL entries. Prizes for the most creative efforts, so NAME your work!**

**Stuck for Ideas???**  
Textiles – cross stitch, crochet, felted shape, appliqued motifs.  
Graphics – typographic greeting (not Christmas), graphic illustration, paper cut  
3D – laser cut, geometric form, slotted shape, pop-up, origami.  
Fine art – illustration, painting, collage.  
ICT – digital drawing, repeat pattern  
TIPS: Use card or thick paper to work on if using wet media such as paint. Inspiration can come from anywhere – Winter is the theme, so think nature, landscapes, buildings, animals, clothing etc.

## LRC NEWS

This week the LRC presents the start of 'Reader Profiles'.

First up is Sonya Robinson of 7HJM, who when asked why she liked reading replied,

"Because it's fun and exciting as well as being educational. My favourite sort of books are action and adventure stories, as well as books featuring animals."

What is your favourite book, and why?

"I like 'Wonder', because it is very inspiring and it teaches you a lesson."

If you were stranded on a desert island, what three books would you want to have?

"1. Hunger Games, 2. Beautiful Broken Things, and 3. A Street Cat Named Bob."

And finally, the LRC submits that Paddington Bear is the greatest character in fiction, who is yours and why? "I like Katniss Everdeen, because she volunteered for her sister and gave the people hope."

Next week another Reader Profile, the Accelerated Reader Leader Board update, plus exciting news of a Xmas special event.

The year 8 Basketball team had their first match on Tuesday in an away game against King Alfreds. The match was always going to be a difficult one as the boy's only had one training session together prior to the match. King Alfred jumped out to an early lead and by half-time the score was 22-6, this could have been a reason for John Mason to give up, but instead the boys showed great collective spirit and managed to rally back and make the game closer, some fantastic defence and loud support from the bench helped limit King Alfred to scoring only 2 points in the entire 3rd quarter, going into the 4th the game was very competitive but King Alfred pulled away with the final score ending; King Alfred 38- John Mason 22.

The team spirit and support the boy's showed each other was fantastic, and was commended by King Alfred's Staff who refereed the game. They came out with their heads held high and were already talking about what to work on for the next game on the way home.



On Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November Oxfordshire County under 15 Squash team played in a three way match at Wheatley against Wales and Avon.

Two students from John Mason were selected to play; both played with vigour and determination. The sporting manner of their play and the attitude that it's a game that should be played in a spirit of friendship and safety reflects values that are so important to developing young people. These students are not alone – with several other John Mason students playing regularly and gaining in skills and competence. This year sees another squash first for JMS – 5 students are learning squash from scratch as part of their GCSE in Physical Education. Students are welcome at the Abingdon Squash Club based at the Abingdon and Witney College – to try a session contact Nigel one of the club coaches – on [nigel@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:nigel@globalnet.co.uk).



Young Carers club runs every Wednesday morning during tutor time where our students can come in, have a hot chocolate and a chat. If you know a young carer, please let them know about the club.



## Children in Need

